

WASHINGTON, DC—Today, on the heels of Speaker Boehner threatening another default crisis, a House Republican Leader declared that [default on our sovereign debt is “a complete red herring](#),” and that the “only way that our

sovereign debt would be compromised is if the president and Treasury chose not to pay it.”

Upon learning of these remarks, Representative Xavier Becerra (CA-31), Vice Chair of the House Democratic Caucus and Ranking Member of the Subcommittee on Social Security, released the following statement:

“As the saying goes, those who ignore history are doomed to repeat it. □ Not only are House Republicans threatening to take our economy to the brink of default again but they’re also suggesting the United States must choose between paying foreign creditors like China or continuing to provide vital services like Social Security to American taxpayers, who have contributed and earned benefits.”

[Click here](#) to read the statement released by Rep. Becerra on January 27, 2011--the last time this [“Pay China First” plan](#) was floated.